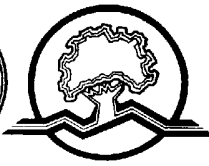


SMMC
July 9, 2007
Attachment
Item 11(d)5



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens

570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100

Los Angeles, California 90065

Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

July 3, 2007

Ms. Elizabeth Cheadle
Chairperson
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
5750 Ramirez Canyon
Malibu, California 90265

**Grant Application - Proposition 84 Funds
Preservation, Protection and Restoration of Los Angeles River Parks**

Dear Ms. Cheadle:

I am pleased to present the enclosed application for grant funding for preservation, protection and restoration to promote the continued safe use and enjoyment of parks along the Los Angeles River. The MRCA requests a grant in the sum of \$350,000 from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

Please refer to the enclosed application for more information. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Lisa Soghor, at (323) 221-9944, extension 105.

Sincerely,

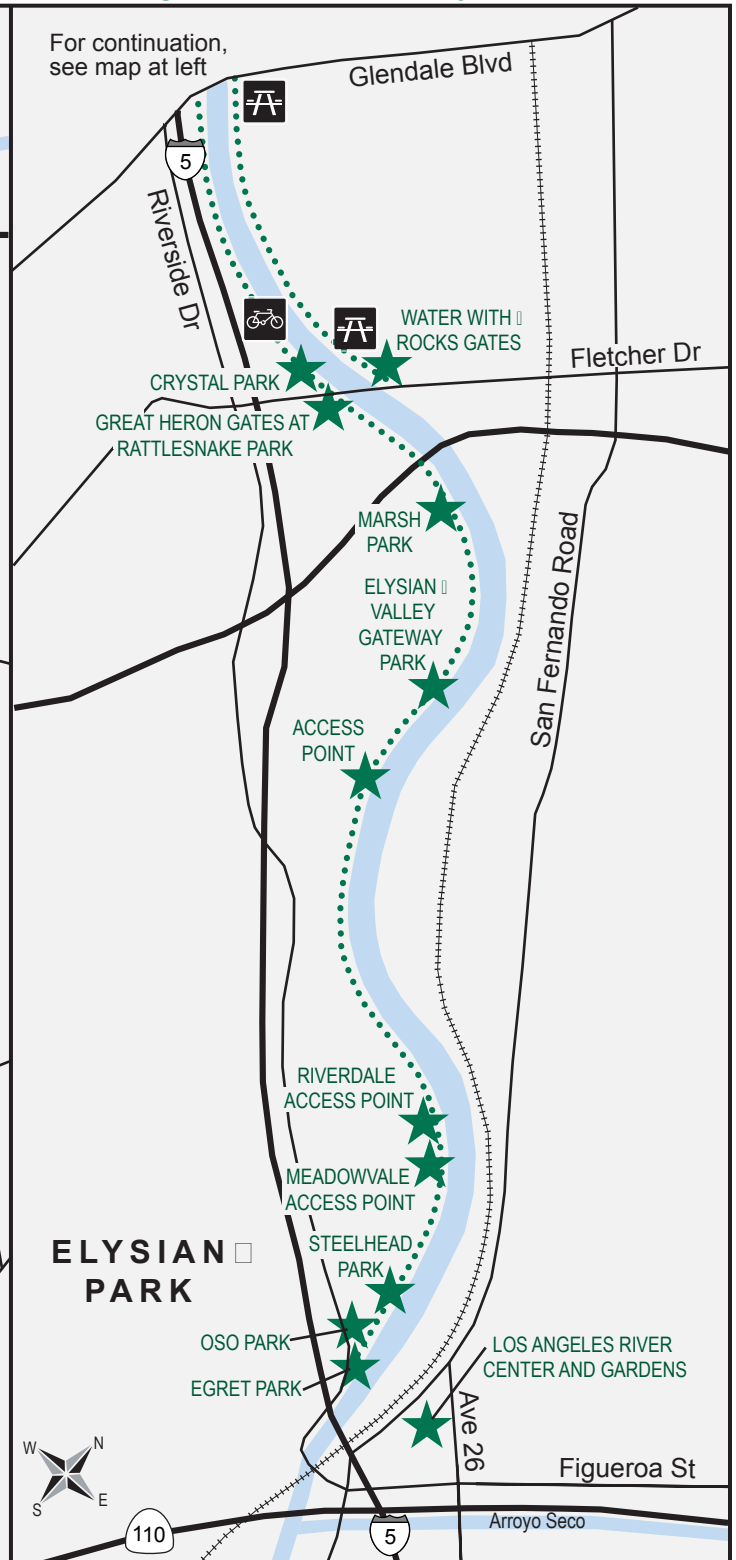
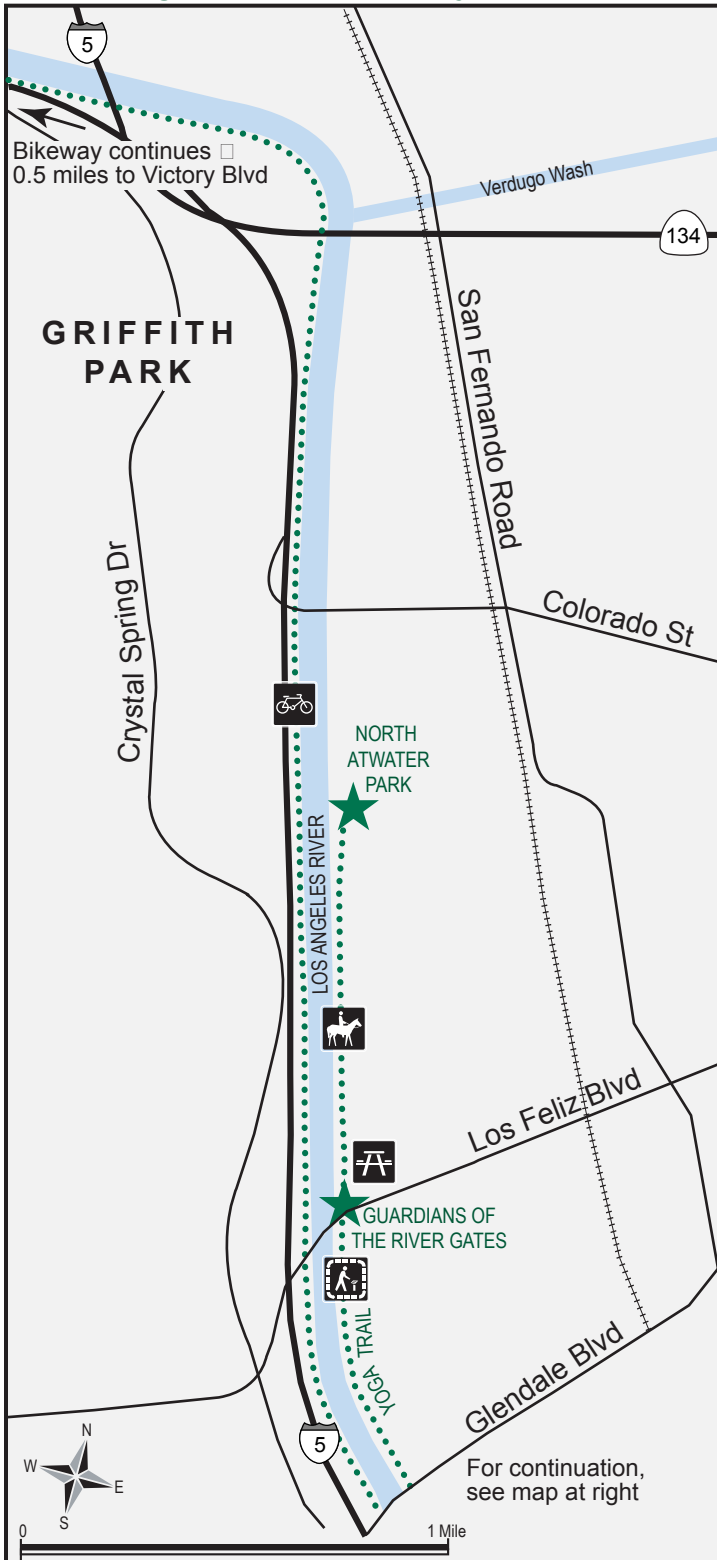
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael D. Berger'.

Michael D. Berger
Chairperson

Attachments: Application

Los Angeles River Greenway: North Section

Los Angeles River Greenway: South Section



Los Angeles River Greenway □ Los Angeles, California

The Los Angeles River Greenway consists of many small pocket parks and a multi-use trail along the natural-streambed portion of the Los Angeles River. Refer to individual maps of the Los Angeles River Center, Steelhead, Oso, and Egret Parks, and Elysian Valley Gateway Park for more detailed information, available at www.lamountains.com.

□

Park Features

Biking	Hiking	Equestrian
Dogs on Leash	Picnic Tables	Filming Location
Interpretive Trail		
Railroad	Minor Road	
Trail	Major Road	

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION			
Project Name: Los Angeles River Greenway Operation		Amount of Request: \$ 350,000 Total Project Cost: \$ 350,000	
Applicant Name: Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority			
Applicant Address: 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100 Los Angeles, CA 90065		Project Address: N/A	
		County	Senate District
		Los Angeles	
Phone: 323-221-9944 Fax: 323-221-9934		Email: Lisa.Soghor@mrca.ca.gov	
Grantee's Authorized Representative:			
Cara McLane, Contracts Officer		323-221-9944, x117	
<i>Name and Title</i>		<i>Phone</i>	
Person with day-to-day responsibility for project:			
Lisa Soghor, Deputy Executive Officer & Chief of Developed Resources		323-221-9944, x105	
<i>Name and Title</i>		<i>Phone</i>	
Brief Scope of Work (60 words maximum): Preservation, protection and restoration activities to promote the continued safe use and enjoyment of parks along the Los Angeles River.			
Funding Source Applied for: Proposition 84			
Narrative/Project Description: <p>Stretching 51 miles from the confluence of Bell and Calabasas Creeks at the western end of the San Fernando Valley, to the Pacific Ocean in Long Beach, the Los Angeles River passes through thirteen cities and numerous jurisdictions.</p> <p>Since the early 1990s, a broad coalition of cities, community groups, public agencies, private corporations and nonprofit organizations has been working to transform the Los Angeles River into a continuous 51-mile recreational greenway. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has been one of the most active participants in the process to create a greenway composed of trails, parks, and natural land. With the help of its partners, the MRCA was responsible for the creation of several small public parks adjacent to the river in Elysian Valley, including Elysian Valley Gateway Park, the Great Heron Gates at Rattlesnake Park, Oso Park, Steelhead Park, Egret Park, the River Garden Park and Marsh Park. The attached map details this area.</p> <p>The MRCA remains responsible for the upkeep of all of these parks, in addition to many less-formal installations of native plants and visitor amenities along this stretch of the river, and remains committed to maintaining a high level of quality. However, the parks in Elysian Valley are subject to tougher conditions than many properties managed by the MRCA. Chronic graffiti, urban trash, windblown weeds and general vandalism make these parks difficult to maintain. Popular locations such as Marsh Park also experience above-average wear-and-tear.</p>			

Continued on next page

An exciting event on the horizon is the extension of the Los Angeles River Bikeway south from its current terminus at Fletcher Drive to the Figueroa/Riverside bridge. When complete, the Elysian Valley parks will experience even more use, and keeping a high level of quality will be even more important.

To promote increased public use and the sense of safety in these parks, the MRCA requests funding to increase the level of service these parks receive. By putting increased levels of staff, in the form of both sworn rangers and field staff, in the parks, the MRCA seeks to get gain greater control of the state of the parks. A full-time ranger will be assigned specifically to patrol of the parks and the greenway along the Los Angeles River. Increased ranger patrol will deter much of the vandalism and graffiti, and reinforce the MRCA's commitment to quality.

The landscaping in these parks needs more hands-on attention than in wilderness parks. While all of the river plantings make use of native plants, these parks cannot be seen as simple restoration projects. The ultra-urban environment means that the plants require the same level of daily care that is found at a facility like the River Center, for the plants to stay in a healthy and attractive condition. The requested funding would also allow the MRCA to replace, upgrade and improve existing site furnishings and amenities in the existing parks. Hard use has given the existing facilities a shorter-than-normal life. Many of them could benefit from replacement.

Pursuant to Section 75005(m) of the Public Resources Code, "Protection" means those actions necessary to prevent harm or damages to persons, property or natural resources or those actions necessary to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or natural resources and includes acquisition, development, restoration, preservation and interpretation.

Pursuant to Section 75005(n) of the Public Resources Code. "Restoration" includes the improvement of physical structures or facilities and in the case of natural systems and landscape features other plant and wildlife habitat improvements to increase the natural value of the property.

The MRCA requests that the term of agreement begin July 9, 2007 and end no earlier than June 30, 2009.

Tasks / Milestones:	Budget:	Completion Date
1 Greenway Patrols	\$ 75,000	June 30, 2009
2 Greenway Operations & Maintenance	\$275,000	June 30, 2009

Acquisition Projects: **APN(s):** n/a
 Acreage: n/a

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

Interim Form SMM-001